

Focus Online – May 11, 2009

President Ettling to unveil new budget actions this week

May 11, 2009 – 4:25 PM



President John Ettling plans on issuing a memo to campus this week, detailing additional steps that are being taken or considered to address the difficult budgetary situation faced by the college.

"I have met regularly with the cabinet and deans to put together a comprehensive plan to address this challenge," Ettling said. "The memo to the campus community will summarize the steps we have taken to date and specific measures we will institute in the near future."

Two programs have already been announced that are designed to provide savings to the college:

- A volunteer work reduction program is being offered to eligible employees who can reduce their work obligation by up to 30 percent.
- A phased retirement program

provides incentives for eligible faculty and staff to transition to retirement. Interested employees would reduce their work obligations over a two-year period, followed by full retirement.

The most significant aspect of the plan is a full review of academic and support programs that will occur over the summer to further the efforts to stabilize the college's budget situation. Results of the review are expected to be announced at the beginning of the fall semester.

[SUNY Plattsburgh](#) | Posted in [News](#) | Tagged [Budget](#) | [1 Comment](#)

Focus goes digital

May 11, 2009 – 4:19 PM

Focus has been reincarnated.

After today, the college's internal newsletter will no longer take the form of a printed document. Instead it will only exist as Focus Online at weblog.plattsburgh.edu/focus.

The measure is designed to make the newsletter more "eco-friendly," to allow for greater content and to save much-needed money for the college.

"Our hope is that the move will not only result in a more sustainable newsletter – it will result in a better newsletter," said Focus Editor Michelle Ouellette.

Focus Online will be published eight times a semester, and faculty, staff and friends of the college will be notified via e-mail whenever new material is published.

For more information, contact news@plattsburgh.edu.

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SUNY Plattsburgh to honor nearly 1,000 at commencement May 16

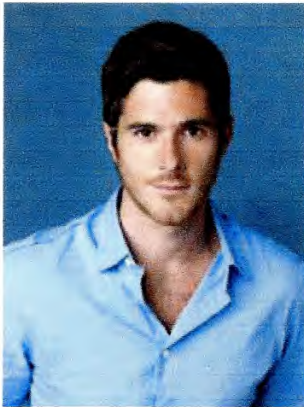
May 11, 2009 – 4:11 PM

Actor Dave Annable and nursing major Kinnon Bliss will be among those who take to the stage at SUNY Plattsburgh's commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 16.



Two ceremonies at the Plattsburgh State Field House will honor the approximately 900 students eligible to graduate from the college this spring and summer. The first ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. and will pay tribute to students graduating with degrees in education, health, human services and business. The second will take place at 2 p.m. and honor students earning degrees in the arts and sciences.

Bliss, of Lake Placid, who is graduating summa cum laude, will serve as the student speaker. In her speech, she will ask the questions, "Who are you becoming?" and "Are you making the most of yourself?"



Annable, formerly of Walden, N.Y., will receive the Plattsburgh Alumni Association's Off to a Good Start Award, which honors individuals who are excelling in a career, who demonstrate a sense of responsibility within the community and who continue to have a relationship with SUNY Plattsburgh.

He is on the cast of ABC's hit series "Brothers & Sisters," where he acts opposite Sally Field, Calista Flockhart, Rob Lowe, and others. Despite his success in Hollywood, he has come back to SUNY Plattsburgh to finish his degree in communication.

Also on stage will be Roderic Giltz and Dr. Celine Paquette, both of whom will receive the Distinguished Service Award.

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Seven SUNY Plattsburgh faculty and staff honored for excellence

May 11, 2009 – 2:46 PM

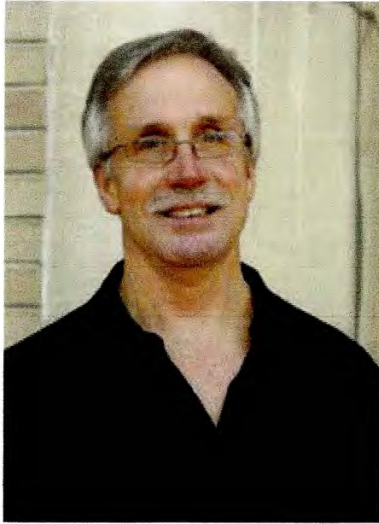
Seven SUNY Plattsburgh faculty and staff members have won the Chancellor's Award for Excellence from the State University of New York this year.

The criteria for the selection of these awards are exacting and ensure that only highly qualified individuals receive them, according to John J. O'Connor, officer-in-charge at the State University of New York. Meeting that criteria this year were Dr. Jon P. Chatlos, Dr. Beth A. Dixon, Dr. Stephen G. Saiz, Dr. Richard Davies, John P. Bradley '94, Debra Kimok '97 and Sandra Rasco '95.

Dr. Jon P. Chatlos

Chatlos received the **Award for Excellence in Teaching**, an honor that goes only to faculty members who have consistently demonstrated superb skill in their instruction.

When it came to nominating Chatlos for the award, SUNY Plattsburgh's selection committee was unanimous in its support.



Over the past six years, the associate professor of [English](#) has taught 13 courses in literature, film and writing, including both introductory and advanced levels. In them, he has placed an emphasis on student involvement and has continually worked to improve both course organization and his teaching, according to SUNY Plattsburgh President John Ettling. He has incorporated appropriate technologies, developed new approaches to teaching writing and revised assessments to improve student outcomes.

The result has been a high degree of student satisfaction with Chatlos' teaching, as reported through course surveys.

"It is no secret in the hallways of the English department that the students love Dr. Chatlos for his enthusiasm, the unrivaled respect he shows his students and the dedication with which he helps shape students' critical thinking and writing," said Joseph Finckel '05, one of Chatlos' former students who is now a teaching assistant in the English department at the University of Connecticut.

"Students do not feel as though they are taught literature by Dr. Chatlos, but that they discover it with him," added Finckel.

In the past, Chatlos has been honored with the [Center for Teaching Excellence's](#) Teacher of the Month Award (February 2009), Honorary Faculty Award from Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education, and the Distinguished Faculty Award from Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society.

He is an active scholar with several papers published and others in process and has been a contributor at conferences both on the art of teaching and on literature.

Dr. Beth Dixon

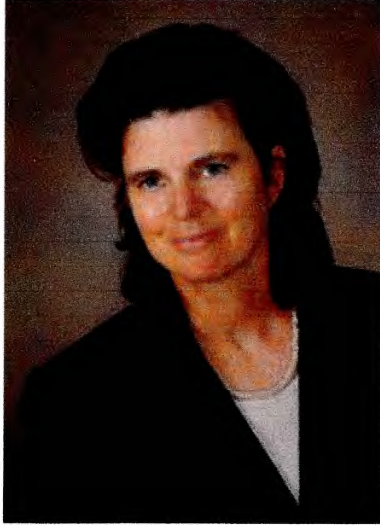
Dixon, another recipient of the **Award for Excellence in Teaching**, says she cannot separate her teaching from the rest of her life.

Because her concept of teaching fundamentally involves the sharing of philosophical ideas, the associate professor of [philosophy](#) finds that her role as teacher permeates her life – in the classroom, in the community and in her scholarship.

When it comes to working with her students, she strives to actively engage them.

"Dr. Dixon's focus in developing courses, designing assignments and planning day-to-day

instruction is to involve students in doing philosophy," said Ettling. "Over the years, Dr.



Dixon has used a variety of techniques to stimulate such engagement, including mock trials, real-world and fictional case studies, role-playing games, field trips, walking tours, films and guest lecturers. She has also shared her experiences with other faculty, not only informally, but also through workshops, conference presentations, and publications about effective ways to teach philosophy."

In the community, Dixon shares the love of her subject matter with elementary and middle school children. She has designed and implemented a philosophy-for-children program through which she takes college students into K-12 classrooms to facilitate philosophic discussions.

She has also published a number of scholarly works, including her recently published book, "Animals, Emotion, and Mortality: Marking the Boundary."

In the past, Dixon has been a fellow at the Institute for Ethics in Public Life, has acted as chair of the college's External Review Committee and has served as a member of other committees including the General Education Committee, the Faculty Affairs Committee, the Middle States Review Committee and the Strategic Planning Task Force.

Dr. Stephen Saiz



Once an elementary school teacher, Saiz, another recipient of the **Award for Excellence in Teaching**, bases his college teaching, in part, on that experience.

As a result, this associate professor's "focus is always on the learner," said Ettling. "Among the more specific techniques he uses are case studies; biography, literature and clinical anecdote; reflective team work; role-playing; and joint analysis of taped counseling sessions as well as lecture demonstration, and discussion."

His students respond well to this teaching style.

"Student evaluations of Dr. Saiz's teaching are the highest I have reviewed during my teaching career," wrote Dr. Richard Schnell, SUNY distinguished service

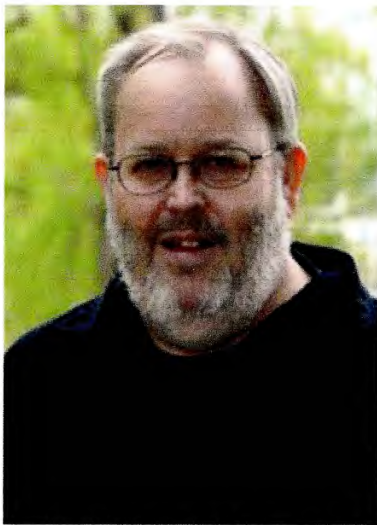
professor and coordinator of the Mental Health Counseling Program.

Saiz is rated especially highly for his responsiveness to and respect for students, his enthusiasm for the subject matter ([counselor education](#)), and his level of understanding of the material. Students also rate him highly for his counseling supervision.

He has shared his expertise in the field through the publication of a half dozen scholarly articles and book chapters, numerous workshops and extensive work as a consultant.

His other honors include a Dean's Award for Outstanding Teaching in Professional Studies, an E. Gordon Poling Scholarship for academic excellence, the Mary Gordon Memorial Scholarship for Outstanding Native American Student, the Crazy Horse Memorial Scholarship, and the North American Society of Adlerian Psychology Scholarship for contributions to the field of Adlerian Psychology.

Dr. Rick Davies



Davies has won the **Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities**.

This award goes to SUNY faculty members who have demonstrated sound and sustained scholarship in the sciences, humanities, and professional studies or consistent creative productivity in the fine and performing arts.

Before his arrival on the SUNY Plattsburgh campus, Davies was already an established musician who had performed with a number of well-known artists in New York City and around the world – including Wyclef Jean, Tito Puente, Michael Jackson, Bo Diddley, Gloria Gaynor, Tony Bennett and Rosemary Clooney.

During his time with the college's [music department](#), both his reputation and the volume of his work have continued to grow.

Over his 10 years on campus, Davies has produced nine CDs – two of which are made up entirely of songs he either wrote or co-wrote. His 2006 "Siempre Salsa" has done especially well, receiving a airplay around the globe, with selections making the top 10 charts in Italy, Japan and Columbia.

According to the many musicians and community members who wrote letters in support of his nomination, Davies has breathed new life into the North Country and Burlington music scene, performing live up to 50 times a year and bringing renowned artists into the area. He has also performed in cities around the globe, including Montreal, Canada; Amsterdam, Holland; Sydney, Australia; Oaxaca, Mexico; Cali, Colombia; Budapest, Hungary; Tokyo, Japan; Regensburg, Germany and Trinidad and Tobago.

In addition, during his time at the college, Davies added to the scholarship in his field, writing five articles and a book and giving a dozen presentations.

"His musical accomplishments speak for themselves," said Plattsburgh College Foundation member Jeff Rendinaro, "and it makes me feel honest-to-God local pride when I'm talking to one of my New York City buddies, and they say, 'Rick Davies, wow, what's that guy doing up there?' I tell them he teaches at SUNY Plattsburgh, and it's one of those rare satisfying moments you sometimes miss in a small town."

John Bradley



Bradley won the **Award for Excellence in Professional Service**. This award is given to SUNY professional service staff members who have consistently demonstrated superlative performance within and beyond their position.

Bradley came to the college as a programmer in 1985. He rose through the ranks to ultimately become the [computing and media services](#) coordinator. In this role, he has become known for creating a culture of service, according to the many letters of support written on his behalf.

"Mr. Bradley's excellence in his primary position is supported by letters from faculty and other staff, who praise his 'can-do' attitude, the respect he accords both faculty and student requests for assistance, and his ability to keep a large and complex system 'humming,' such that the rest of us are rarely made conscious of the effort that goes into this – all this with always limited budget and staff," said Ettling.

Bradley's service to the college goes beyond that which is in his job description, Ettling added. He serves on 10 standing committees, including the Web Oversight Working Group and the Faculty Senate Resources and Planning Committee. Furthermore, he has been a member of more than 40 committees or task forces. Through these, he has developed a reputation for his ability to grasp the big picture.

"John adds a great analytical perspective to any and all deliberations during committee meetings," said Bryan Hartman '88, director of residence life. "I find that his sense of humor and general positive outlook, as well as his meaningful contributions make John a sought-out committee member for a range of issues."

Bradley's community service was also taken into account in earning this award. He chairs the Beekmantown Youth Commission, serves on Beekmantown Central School's Technology Committee and is a trustee of the school's Booster Club, a member of the

Town of Beekmantown's Public Relations and Technology Committee and Web editor for St. Peter's Church. He also was a soccer coach for the Beekmantown Youth Bureau and has also volunteered his time to help with the college's Relay for Life.

Debra Kimok



Kimok was given the award for **Excellence in Librarianship**, which honors her skill in librarianship, her extended service to the campus and to the State University of New York combined with her scholarship and professional achievements.

This senior assistant librarian works half-time in [Feinberg Library's Special Collections](#) and half-time in the library's instruction program and has had a major impact in both arenas, according to Ettling.

She serves as a reference librarian, teaches the library information management course and has digitized photographs; built databases; increased public awareness of and access to Special Collections and

College Archives materials; updated Special Collections procedures, policies and Web pages; and created online tutorials that increase access for students learning how to use the college's information systems.

Kimok has played "a transformative role in moving the library toward new approaches in teaching students with the Internet media," wrote her colleagues, Interim Associate Dean Holly Heller-Ross and Librarian Carla Hendrix, in their letter of nomination.

Kimok has also served as editor of The Records Manager newsletter of the Society of American Archivists Records Management Roundtable, of which she is the current vice-chair and co-coordinator of a Joint Working Group on Diversity in Archives and Records Management; has had two articles published, one refereed and one non-refereed; has presented at several conferences and meetings; and has made contributions to several other projects.

In the community, Kimok has shared her professional expertise, serving as a trustee of the Kent Delord House Museum and as a member of the New York Archives Conference Board. She has been a member of the Professional Development Awards Committee and the North Country Digital History Project for the Northern New York Library Network, and is currently a member of the SUNY Librarians Association Archives Working Group and the Plattsburgh Museum Day Planning Committee.

Kimok has also served on several campus and library committees, including the Writing Across the Curriculum Committee and the Assessment Advisory Committee.

Fellowship winner to observe interaction of elderly with children

May 11, 2009 – 2:02 PM



Amanda Goodfellow's favorite time of day is the time she spends with the individuals at the Third Age Adult Day Center.

The human development and family relations major will have many great days next year as she puts her Chapel Hill Foundation Fellowship to work. Goodfellow was recently awarded the competitive "Challenges of an Aging Society" fellowship, which pays tuition, in addition to a summer stipend, to an individual doing research on aging.

For her research, Goodfellow will work at the Third Age Center, part of the Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Center. There she will study the affects of interaction between children and individuals with memory impairments.

"In September, I'll have the dementia clients meet with the pre-K class at the SUNY Plattsburgh Child Care Center once a week for an hour," said Goodfellow. Both centers are in Sibley Hall on campus, so the proximity is perfect she added.

"I'll be looking for an improvement in mood, a decrease in apathy, an increase in engagement," she said. "Of course, each person's ability to communicate is different, so that will be a challenge. Some can't talk. One gentleman whistles to communicate."

From her study, Goodfellow hopes to compile statistical evidence that shows intergenerational co-mingling works in the treatment of dementia.

"I'm hoping it can be used in intergenerational programs in the future," she said.

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[Faculty/Staff Showcase](#)

May 11, 2009 – 1:49 PM



Dennis Aprill '79, lecturer in the English and journalism departments, has signed a contract with the History Press, Salem, Mass., to write a book, "Adirondack Wildlife Tales" (tentative title), based partially on his natural history articles in the Press Republican. The book is scheduled for an early 2010 release. Aprill also has an article, "Growl, You're on Candid Camera," in the Adirondack Life Magazine Annual

Summer Guide.



Dr. Linda A. Luck G'80, professor of chemistry, has published a paper in Analytical Biochemistry, titled "Genetically Engineered Protein Films on Gold Nanoparticles: A Novel Electrochemical Glucose Biosensor." The paper was co-published by Dr. Silvana Andreescu from Clarkson University.



Dr. Mark P. Richard, associate professor of history and Canadian studies coordinator, has an article, "This Is Not a Catholic Nation: The Ku Klux Klan Confronts Franco-Americans in Maine," coming out in the June 2009 issue of the New England Quarterly. This essay is part of a larger project that will become his second book. It will examine the activities of the KKK in French-Canadian population centers in New

England during the 1920s.



Two SUNY Plattsburgh history faculty members have had articles accepted by the Journal of Women's History, the premiere journal in the field of women's studies. **Dr. Connie Shemo's** article "How Better Could She Serve Her Country? Cultural Translators, U.S. Women's History, and Kang Cheng's 'Amazons in Cathay,'" will be published in the winter issue. **Dr. Jessamyn Neuhaus'** article, "'Is It Ridiculous for Me to Say I Want to Write?' Domestic Humor and Redefining the 1950s Housewife Writer in Fan Mail to Shirley Jackson," will be published in the summer issue, Volume 21, No. 2.



Dr. Jean Ouédraogo, professor and chair of foreign languages and literature, presented a paper, titled "L'esthétique du voyage chez Ahmadou Kourouma," and chaired a panel at the 35th annual conference of the African Literature Association in Burlington, Vt., this April. As outgoing president of the Francophone Caucus of the ALA, he hosted the Francophone luncheon and business meeting. Ouédraogo also attended the 40th anniversary of FESPACO, the Pan-African Film Festival of Ouagadougou and took part in the 25th edition of Vues d'Afrique, the Montreal-based PanAfrica International film festival where he serves as vice president of the board of directors.



This April, **Dr. William Peters**, assistant professor of sociology and criminal justice, recently appeared as a panelist at Columbia University in New York City. He chaired a panel, titled "War Crimes and Justice During and After World War II," which included several paper presentations and was conducted during the annual convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, sponsored by the Harriman Institute.

Dr. Qiuyun Lin, assistant professor of childhood education, has recently had two articles published. "Student Views of Hybrid Learning: A One-year Exploratory Study" was published in the Journal of Computing in Teacher Education. The other, "Preservice Teachers' Learning Experiences of Constructing ePortfolios Online," was published in The Internet and Higher Education.

"Ripples in the Upside-Down Lake of the World: Running a Read-Aloud Marathon," an article by **Dr. David Iasevoli**, assistant professor of teacher education, will be featured in the July 2009 issue of English Journal.

Notebook

May 11, 2009 – 1:46 PM

10th Annual Arts and Science Academic Achievement Award Ceremony and Reception, Friday, May 15, 5 p.m. E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium. For more information, call 518-564-3150.

SUNY Plattsburgh Spring/Summer Commencement Ceremonies, Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m. (Education, Health and Human Services, School of Business and Economics) and 2 p.m. (Arts and Science), Field House.

2009 Global Supply Chain Management Conference, Tuesday, May 19-Thursday, May 21. All day. Angel College Center. For more information, visit the Web at www.plattsburghcasl.com/GSCM.

Conference on New York State History, Thursday, June 4-Saturday, June 6, SUNY Plattsburgh. Events open to the public include a forum, "Continental Engagement: U.S.-Canada Relationships, 1609 to the Present," at 7:30 p.m. on June 4 in Yokum Hall; and a lecture by Pulitzer Prize-winning author David Hackett Fischer, who will speak on "A Frenchman in New York: Champlain Among the Mohawk in 1609" at 8 p.m. in the E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium on Friday, June 5. For more information, see www.nysha.org.

Speech and Hearing Center Open House, Thursday, June 18, 2-5:30 p.m. Room 224, Sibley Hall. Tours of the clinic, free hearing screenings, informational materials and refreshments. For more information, call 518-564-2170.

Managing E-Mail Effectively, Wednesday, June 24, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Cardinal Lounge, Angell Center. Workshop discusses how to identify records transmitted via e-mail; identify the retention period for e-mail records; file, maintain and preserve e-mail; and more. Free and open to the public. For more information, call 518-564-5011.

The 11th Annual Lake Champlain Sea Kayak Institute, Monday, July 13-Thursday, July 23, Valcour Educational Conference Center, Peru. Programs for new or beginning paddlers and for experienced paddlers. For schedule, costs and registration information call 518-564-5292.

Senior Exhibition 2009: "Hello, My Name is ..." noon-4 p.m. daily, through May 17,

Burke Gallery, Myers Fine Arts Building. Exhibit showcases works of SUNY Plattsburgh seniors. For information, call 518-564-2474.

"Rockwell Kent: This Is My Own," 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, through July 6, New York State Museum, Albany, N.Y. Exhibition of fine art from the Plattsburgh State Art Museum, Rockwell Kent Collection. Contact the New York State Museum at 518-474-5877 and the Plattsburgh State Art Museum at 518-564-2474.

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Sandra Rasco



Rasco was honored with the **Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Classified Service**. An award that is being given for the first time this year, it honors classified staff who have consistently demonstrated superlative performance within and beyond their position.

Rasco has worked in the Computing and Media Services Unit for 11 years, providing support for 20 staff members and assisting faculty and students as well. Her efforts help ensure smooth operations at the help desk, labs and classrooms, media services, servers and systems management and video conferencing, in addition to facilitating the administrative aspects of the Computing and Media Services Unit.

She goes above and beyond her job description, teaching herself how to use new equipment and supplementing vendor manuals, according to the staff who work with her. Then, she takes time to go over everything with those borrowing it, providing them with direct-user support and training.

Rasco is not content to wait for needs to present themselves, said Bradley, her supervisor. She anticipates demand. For instance, she will contact faculty even before they have requested equipment.

"Sandy Rasco's work has always been nothing short of outstanding and exemplary," wrote Bradley, in his letter recommending her for the award. "She is exceptionally committed to providing superior service and is tenacious in her pursuit of solutions to problems or improvements in services."

"Her comprehensive attention to detail not only makes her look good, but makes the rest of us look good as well," Bradley added.

Rasco's service goes beyond the college walls. She also takes time to help others in the realm of athletics through mentoring, officiating and even organizing local snowshoe events.

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Focus Online, Aug. 19, 2009

President's Welcome, Friday, Aug 21

August 19, 2009 – 5:26 PM



The annual President's Welcome will be held on Friday, Aug. 21, at 8:30 a.m. in the E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium located in Hawkins Hall.

The meeting is an opportunity for faculty and staff to gather, celebrate the successes of colleagues and welcome new members of our campus community as they kick off the new school year together.

The following members of the campus community will receive special recognition for recently received honors:

- Dr. Gordon Pollard - SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor
- Dr. Richard Davies - Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarships and Creative Activities
- Dr. Beth Dixon - Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching
- Dr. Jon Chatlos - Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching
- Dr. Stephen Saiz - Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching
- Ms. Debra Kimok '97 - Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship
- Mr. John Bradley '84 - Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service
- Ms. Sandra Rasco '95 - Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Classified Service
- Ms. Sheri Dumont - Teaching Excellence Award for Adjunct Faculty (See related [article](#) in this issue of Focus Online.)
- Mr. Timothy Morningstar - Teaching Excellence Award for Adjunct Faculty (See related [article](#) in this issue of Focus Online.)

Coffee and pastries will be served beginning at 8 a.m. in the Hawkins Hall patio area. No food/drink can be brought into the E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium.

The schedule of divisional faculty meetings is as follows:

- Library/Information Services - Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2 p.m. Feinberg Library Staff Room
- Arts and Science - Friday, Aug. 21, 10:15 a.m. Yokum 200
- Business/Economics - Friday, Aug. 21, 10 a.m. Mowry Conference Room
- Education, Health, and Human Services - Friday, Aug. 21, 1:30 p.m. Yokum 202

Please share this announcement with those who may not have access to e-mail as there will be no hard copy sent out.

Release time, subject to operating needs, has been approved by Human Resources so that employees can attend the President's Welcome.

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Backlog creates delay in teacher accreditation determination

August 19, 2009 – 5:25 PM



Officials from the Teacher Education Accreditation Council report that the schedule for determining whether or not SUNY Plattsburgh's education programs will be accredited is still on track, although it is going slower than hoped.

Originally, both TEAC and the college's teacher education program had hoped that the decision would be announced early this fall. However, it now appears that the announcement will be made in November or December.

According to Dr. David Hill, dean of education, health, and human services, the delay is largely due to the fact that TEAC is rapidly becoming an accrediting body of choice among teacher education programs. The flurry of institutions applying for accreditation has made the process take longer than anticipated.

Hill believes that the reason for TEAC's popularity is that it utilizes an inquiry-based approach as opposed to simply prescribing standards. The inquiry-based approach allows

colleges to set their own standards based on nationally accepted ones and to put in place their own processes to determine whether or not those standards are being met on an ongoing basis.

"With the TEAC process, we have more opportunity to be creative and to assess whether or not our creative approaches are working," said Hill. "This is important because we don't aspire to be

an average program.”

“It’s the difference between inquiry and compliance. We are striving to not just comply with standards but to excel,” he added.

In the meantime, Hill and his faculty remain positive about the outcome of this process. “We do have a quality program, and I’m confident that TEAC will recognize that,” said Hill.

He has reason to be confident. After all, members of his faculty are not only being asked to speak about current innovations in the program at conferences around the country, they are being invited for return visits.

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SUNY Plattsburgh honors adjunct faculty members with excellence award

August 19, 2009 – 5:24 PM

Two faculty members, one in art and one in music, have just been named recipients of the 2008-2009 Teaching Excellence Award for Adjunct Faculty from SUNY Plattsburgh.

Sheri Dumont and Timothy Morningstar were selected to receive this year’s awards, which honor adjunct faculty who have demonstrated consistent, effective and outstanding teaching.

Dumont teaches in the college’s art department. Student opinion surveys from 23 sections of her



Introduction to Photography class show that from 80 to 90 percent of her students give her the highest ranking of excellence on virtually every criterion listed. Many write that she is the best teacher they have had.

“She makes everyone ... feel like an artist,” wrote one student.

Students are not the only ones singing her praises, however.

“Sheri Dumont has been acknowledged by her peers for her willingness to go beyond expectations,” said SUNY Plattsburgh President John Ettling. “They also say that her former students are well prepared for more advanced work in photography.”

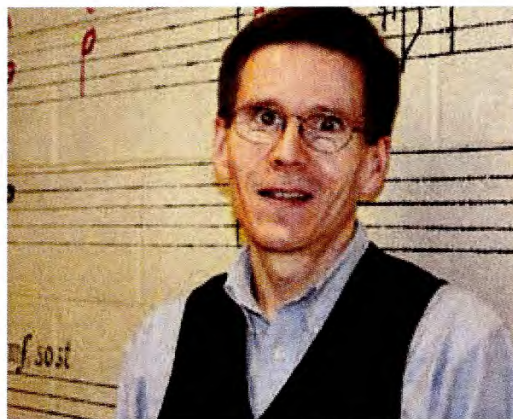
The other award recipient, Morningstar, teaches voice, music appreciation and musical theater classes. According to Ettling, Morningstar has been similarly praised by his peers.

“Tim Morningstar’s colleagues have taken notice of his ability to teach voice. They also praise his service as a ‘caring, involved, supportive and dedicated teacher, who sets and maintains high standards for his students,’” said Ettling.

“In addition, he is known on campus for the opportunities he creates – for student performances and for cultural activities benefiting both the campus and the community,” added Ettling.

In addition to creating performances that showcase student work, Morningstar has created programs bringing the award-winning Broadway celebrity George Hearn to the campus theater stage.

According to course opinion surveys taken over a two-year period, from 80 to 100 percent of the students in Morningstar’s applied voices classes strongly agree that he has a good understanding of the material, is enthusiastic about his subject, is responsive to and respectful of students and provides helpful feedback. The majority of students in his voice and music appreciation classes give similar responses.



Letters from his students have praised Morningstar for his diligence, intelligence and creativity.

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Botany conference trip example of integration and student achievement

August 19, 2009 – 5:22 PM

A SUNY Plattsburgh student walked away from The Botany 2009 conference, held in Snowbird, Utah, this May, with an award.

Meagan Lebeau '09, a biology graduate, received the 2009 Young Botanist Award from the Botanical Society of America.

According to Dr. Chris Martine, assistant professor of biology, the Botanical Society of America took into account many factors in honoring Lebeau with the award.

“Meagan did plant-related research in three different labs while at SUNY Plattsburgh,” said Martine. “She worked with Peter Conrad and Janice Marchut Conrad on heavy metal remediation; with Don Slish on cardiovascular pharmacology; and with me on pollination biology of a local uncommon wildflower species. She was part of a small group of students who started the first-ever student chapter of the Botanical Society of America in the country and attended that society's annual meeting in three successive summers. Additionally, she finished her tenure here with a 4.0 GPA and was awarded a Chancellor's Award. All the above factored into her Young Botanist Award.”

Lebeau, who will be pursuing a Ph.D. in the future, was but one of five members of the SUNY



Plattsburgh community who attended the conference. She was joined by Matt Soranno, a graduate natural science major; Jillian Post, an environmental science major; and Martine and Dr. Ken Adams G'77, SUNY distinguished teaching professor of ecology.

While there, members of the Plattsburgh contingent gave three presentations:

- “Assessment of Native Riparian Plant Communities to Improve Agricultural Buffer Plantings,” presented by Soranno, Post; co-authored by Martine and Adams.
- “Can *Hydrocharis morsus-ranae* (European Frogbit, Hydrocharitaceae) Be Eradicated in an Early Detection and Rapid Response Context?” presented by Martine and co-authored by Steve Langdon '93 '09, an environmental science graduate; Martine; and Hilary Oles from The Nature Conservancy.
- “Bees, Wallabies, and Aubergines: Pollination, Seed Dispersal, and Population Dynamics in Australian Dioecious *Solanum*,” presented by Martine and co-authored by Dr. Dan Vogt in SUNY Plattsburgh's biology program and Betty Lavoie, an undergrad biology major.

The work presented represented a collaboration between professors and undergraduates from biology, environmental science as well as a graduate student in the natural science program and the program coordinator of The Nature Conservancy's Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Project.

“This is an example of the professional opportunities available to our science students, as well as a fine example of the collaborative nature of our science faculty/programs,” said Martine.

Funding for the student trips was provided through grants from The Nature Conservancy and College Auxiliary Services.

[SUNY Plattsburgh](#) | Posted in [News](#) | [No Comments](#)

Faculty/Staff Showcase

August 19, 2009 – 4:34 PM



Michael Cashman '03 G'06, student activities coordinator in the Center for Student Involvement, was appointed to the Young Leaders Congress by Gov. David Patterson. The group has been established to work with Empire State Development in launching initiatives aimed at attracting and retaining young professionals, especially in the upstate region.

Dr. Lise Héroux, professor, and **Dr. James Csipak**, associate professor, in the Department of Marketing and Entrepreneurship had a journal article published in the Autumn 2008 issue of *Téoros - Revue de recherche en tourisme*. The article, titled "Marketing Strategies

of Museums in Quebec and Northeastern United States: An Exploratory Comparative Study," is the product of an observational research study conducted by 36 SUNY Plattsburgh international marketing students.



As part of his work during a sabbatical semester, **Dr. Fernando Iturburu**, associate professor in foreign languages, has published the second edition of his book on religious colonial women in Ecuador and Peru (Consulate of Peru, Guayaquil, 2009); his book on popular culture called "El Libro del Barrio" (CEN, Guayaquil, 2009); and, as a co-editor with Professor Alexis Levitin, the first anthology of Ecuadorian poetry, "Tapestry of the Sun" (San Francisco, Coimbra Editions, 2009). He was present in Ecuador during the launching of his three books at the International Book Fair of Guayaquil this July and August.

Dr. Bob Karp, director of institutional research, was appointed as an examiner for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education; participated in a focus group to revise and refine the Society of College and University Planners mission and vision statements; and was elected to serve as the comprehensive college representative to the executive board of the New York Association for Institutional Research and Planning Officers.



Director of International Student Services **Jackie Vogl** recently attended a meeting of the Academy for Educational Development and the Higher Committee for Educational Development in Iraq as they hosted Prime Minister Nouri Al-Maliki. There, Al-Maliki announced the launch of the Iraq Education Initiative and introduced the American Universities Iraq Consortium. While SUNY Plattsburgh is not a part of the initial consortium, which will be welcoming students to U.S. campuses this fall, SUNY Plattsburgh will likely host students from Iraq in the fall of 2010.



Dr. Richard L. Schnell '71 G'72, SUNY distinguished service professor of counselor education, presented an international poetry program, "Trains & Haiku: Crosscurrents along the Iron Rails," at the National Library and Archives, Ottawa, Canada. The program, which featured poet John Brandi, was part of the Haiku North America 2009 poetry conference, held every two years. Schnell's program presented train poems of two dozen poets and included poems from Ireland, India, Canada, Romania, the United States and Japan. Poets Penny Harter, John Stevenson, Michael Dylan Welch, Roberta Beary and Angelee Deodhar joined Schnell in reading their poems. Schnell's poem, "the fish translucent," was read at the conference memorial ceremony for poet and scholar, William J. Higginson.

Schnell also recently had three poems published in various anthologies. These included "Lupine . . . and the Canadian," which was published in "Into Our Words" and "snow how it separates sunlight," which was published in "The Clear Dawn Sky: Haiku Canada Anthology 2009," and in "A Travel-Worn Satchel: The Haiku Society of America Anthology 2009."

[SUNY Plattsburgh](#) | [Posted in Faculty/Staff Showcase](#) | [No Comments](#)

Notebook

August 19, 2009 – 4:32 PM

President's Welcome, Friday, Aug. 21, 8:30 a.m. E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium.

Classes Start, Monday, Aug. 24, 8 a.m.

Blood Drive, Thursday, Aug. 27, 10:30 a.m. Cardinal Lounge, Angell College Center.

“The New Tenant,” Friday, Aug. 28, 7:30 p.m. Hartman Theatre, Myers Fine Arts Building. Eugene Ionesco's comedic one-act Theater of the Absurd play about a man who rents a new apartment only to find on moving day the furniture takes over and quickly overwhelms the characters. Directed by student Anthony Gallucci and produced by Kurtis Rivers with theater department faculty Laura-Jean Schwartau-Swanson and Ken Roberts. A talkback session with the cast and crew follows the show. Free and open to the public.

Family Fun Faculty/Staff Potluck Picnic, Saturday, Aug. 29. 11 a.m.- 2 p.m. Cumberland Bay State Park, 152 Cumberland Head Rd., Plattsburgh. Bring spouses, partners, children and friends. Lifeguards will be on duty. The park charges \$7 per carload. Questions? Contact Simona Sharoni at 518-564-3002 or sshar001@plattsburgh.edu.

Sept. 11 Ceremony, Friday, Sept. 11, Noon. Hawkins Pond. More information to come.

[SUNY Plattsburgh](#) | Posted in [Events](#) | [No Comments](#)

Focus Online, Sept. 4, 2009

SUNY Plattsburgh Geology Students Make Historical Find of a Lifetime

September 4, 2009 – 4:00 PM



Jake McAdoo and his fellow students were collecting mud samples at the site of the old Plattsburgh Air Force Base on Lake Champlain when McAdoo's shovel hit something hard.



"Jake said that he thought he hit a railroad spike. Then, he dug further down and said, 'No, I think it's a bone,'" said Dr. David Franzi, SUNY distinguished teaching professor of earth and environmental science. The students were taking part in a landslide study for his environmental geology class

"I told him, 'No, it's not a bone,'" said Franzi. "You almost never find bones."

But Franzi was wrong. It was a bone, and a very special bone at that.



Dr. Robert Feranec, curator of vertebrate paleontology at the New York State Museum has verified that the fossilized bones actually belong to a harbor seal. The bones date back to the existence of the Champlain Sea, during the end of the last glacial cycle about 12,000 to 10,000 years ago.

According to Feranec, the bones that have now been uncovered at the site include fibula, tibia, four vertebrae, a jaw bone and what may be ankle and foot bones.

“Seal fossils are a pretty rare find for New York,” said Feranec. “We only have two single fossil specimens in the State Museum collections now, so this find of about 15 bones including the jaw is significant.”

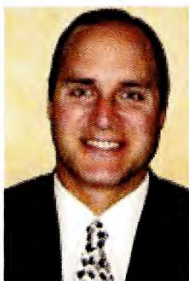
According to Feranec, the next steps are to carbon date the fossils and to conserve them so that they last. Then, they will be placed in the New York State Museum’s permanent collections.

“I’d also like to mention that it’s been great to collaborate with Dr. Franzi on this,” said Feranec. “It was great that the students in Dr. Franzi’s class were knowledgeable enough to let him know they found some bones and not just toss them into the lake. I also appreciate Dr. Franzi getting in touch with the State Museum. Now these fossils will be available for research (by me and hopefully others), as well as possibly available for exhibits and education,” he added.

According to Franzi, his students were very excited about the find, which relates peripherally to what they are learning in the classroom. For students in his sedimentology and geomorphology classes, however, there is a direct connection, and, according to Franzi, the find helps bring his subject to life.

SUNY Plattsburgh Graduate, Presidential Award-Winner Makes Math, Science Come to Life

September 4, 2009 – 3:01 PM



A SUNY Plattsburgh alumnus was recently named a recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Jim Brown G'92 was one of fewer than a 100 kindergarten- through sixth-grade teachers nationwide to receive the honor this year.

Brown, a sixth grade science and math teacher at Sand Creek Middle School in Colonie, N.Y., will receive his award in a White House ceremony this fall along with SUNY Plattsburgh Biology Professor Nancy Elwess, who will receive a Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring. (Visit www.plattsburgh.edu/about/profiles/faculty/elwess.php for more information on Elwess and her award.)

According to Brown, his experience with math education at SUNY Plattsburgh changed the way he understood and now teaches the subject.

Instead of just having Brown teach formulas, one of his professors taught him to use manipulatives to explain the concepts behind mathematical equations. This is something that isn't generally done with students beyond the primary grades but something that his professor believed was important.

To teach the importance of these tools, the professor asked his students to solve the Pythagorean Theorem using squares. Being forced to do so allowed Brown to understand the concepts behind the theorem in a way that he never had before.

"Until I went to learn about teaching math, I couldn't explain the concept to anybody," said Brown.

Now Brown uses a similar approach in teaching his students.

For instance, at one point in his career, he and his fellow teachers discovered that their students were getting questions about pi wrong on their standardized tests.

"We were looking at this saying, 'Wow, we taught this millions of times. How could they possibly get this wrong?'" said Brown.



As a result, he started to set his lessons up so that his students would discover the concept behind pi themselves. He gave them bicycle wheels of different sizes and had them measure both the circumference and the diameter. Then, they entered the numbers into a spreadsheet. The last column on the spreadsheet compared the ratio between the diameters and the circumference.

"It wasn't labeled," he said. "And I didn't tell them what it was, but I knew it would happen eventually – and eventually it did. Somebody said,

'Hey, all of the numbers are three point something.' That was an 'aha' moment, and I stopped and said, 'Okay, let's talk about that.'"

Brown also makes a point of saying "yes" to his students, helping them think outside the box.

"Kids start running into the classroom saying, 'Oh, I have an idea,' and some of them are really impractical," he said. "And I just tell them, 'That sounds good.' Then I prompt them to think about how to implement it. Then they'll walk in the next day and say, 'We can't do that because ...'"

"A lot of times kids are told 'no,' and a lot of times 'no' does not mean 'No, you can't do it,' but 'No, from an adult's perspective, that's not practical. Don't waste your time,'" said Brown. "But I think a lot of times that's where the learning takes place."

This sort of work has led Brown's students to embark on a number of successful projects, including building a soap box derby car that made it to a national competition; writing and receiving a grant for the school to install electronic handleless water faucets to prevent students from wasting water; and starting bicycle recycling programs.

"Jim is a consummate professional," said David Perry, Sand Creek Middle School principal, in a phone interview. "Someone who you would want teaching your own children. He comes to school with an energy and passion every day and instills it in his students and the other professionals in the building. It is infectious. As they see Jim is doing something, his colleagues are supportive and want to try those things in their classroom as well."

In this way, said Perry, Brown's work does not just impact his own students, but all of the students who attend the school.

"I couldn't be more proud of Jim," added Perry. "We feel the award is well deserved."

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching is awarded annually to the best pre-college-level science and math teachers from across the country. The winners are selected by a panel of distinguished scientists, mathematicians, and educators, following an initial selection process done at the state level. Each year the award alternates, going either to science and math teachers in grades K through 6 (as it is this year) or to those teaching in grades 7 through 12.

"There is no higher calling than furthering the educational advancement of our nation's young people and encouraging and inspiring our next generation of leaders," President Barack Obama said in a statement. "These awards represent a heartfelt salute of appreciation to a remarkable group of individuals who have devoted their lives and careers to helping others and in doing so have helped us all."

SUNY Plattsburgh Grad in Major Motion Picture



September 4, 2009 – 3:00 PM

Owen Benjamin (Smith) '02 has hit the silver screen with the new movie, "All's Faire in Love ...". In it, the SUNY Plattsburgh history grad, co-stars with Christina Ricci, Ann Margaret, Cedric the Entertainer and others.

He is also scheduled to hit the small screen with appearances on "The Jay Leno Show" and "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon," set for Sept. 28 and 30, respectively.

Faculty Member Devotes Time, Expertise to Champlain Quadricentennial Events

September 4, 2009 – 2:59 PM



Dr. Sylvie Beaudreau has immersed herself in all things Samuel de Champlain this year -- the quadricentennial year of Champlain's finding the lake that now bears his name.

The associate professor of history and Canadian studies has discussed the navigator at six different venues in the Lake Champlain region, including the Vermont Humanities Council's First Wednesday series in Burlington, at Saint Anne's Shrine in Isle La Motte, Vt., and at conferences in both Burlington and Plattsburgh.



In recent months, five articles touching on her work have appeared in the Press Republican, two of which were devoted entirely to her academic work. One article was picked up by the Associated Press wire service and received nationwide distribution.

She was part of the Emmy-winning team that made the PBS documentary, "Champlain: The Lake Between," and she is featured in a second PBS documentary, "The Forgotten War," about the French and Indian War.

As if this wasn't enough, an article she prepared on the Champlain Tercentenary is set for publication in Vermont History, and her book on the subject is being reviewed for publication by SUNY Press.

'Meet Your Neighbors Night' Aims to Forge Bonds Between Students, Residents

September 4, 2009 – 2:59 PM

The Plattsburgh Campus/City Coalition encourages faculty and staff to join students and members of the Plattsburgh community at its "Meet Your Neighbors Night." The event provides an opportunity for members of the college and the community to get to know one another.

This free event will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 9, at four fraternity houses in the city: the Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity at 23 Draper Ave.; the Alpha Chi Rho Fraternity at 147 Brinkerhoff St.; the Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity at 70 Broad St.; and the Pi Alpha Nu Fraternity at 122 Court St. In the event of rain, the celebrations will be held in the same locations on

Wednesday, Sept. 16, from 6 to 8 p.m.

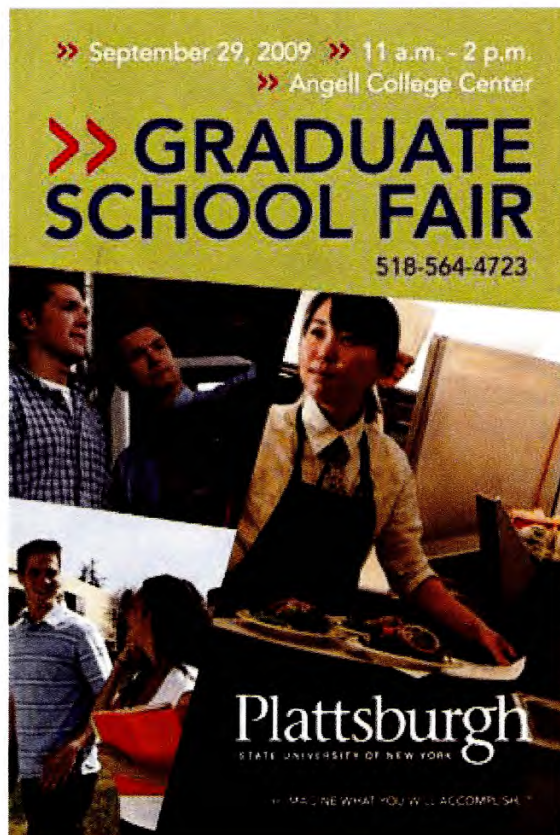
The celebrations at each location will feature food, provided by Chartwells; entertainment, crafts and activities for children provided by the hosting fraternities and the Center for Fraternity and Sorority Life; information about community-wide events; and more. In addition, Plattsburgh firefighters will be on hand distributing information about prevention, and city officials will also be present.

“We’re having this night so that the City of Plattsburgh residents and SUNY Plattsburgh students can realize how they benefit from one another. The celebrations will provide a chance to have simple conversations that will lead to positive relationships that will last throughout the year,” said Mike White, a SUNY Plattsburgh junior and chair for the Campus/City Coalition.

To invite neighbors to this event and to raise awareness of other efforts, coalition members, including students and city officials, will go door to door on Sunday, Sept. 6.

The event is sponsored by the hosting fraternities, College Auxiliary Services, the Center for Fraternity and Sorority Life and the Campus/City Coalition.

SUNY Plattsburgh Hosts Graduate, Professional School Fair



For the first time in many years, SUNY Plattsburgh is hosting a Graduate and Professional School Fair, and Director of Graduate School Admissions Marguerite Adelman is asking for faculty and staff to help spread the word.

The fair will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 29, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in SUNY Plattsburgh’s Flynt Commons, Angell College Center.

More than 32 colleges and universities offering a variety of graduate programs, including business, communications, education, law, medicine and social work, will participate in the event. Participating colleges will provide students with graduate program information, admissions requirements and application packets. SUNY Plattsburgh’s Career Development Center will also be available to offer students information and tips on preparing for and applying to graduate schools.

Adelman believes that all students can benefit from learning more about the opportunities after

graduation.

"The earlier you start thinking about graduate school the better," says Adelman. "Understanding the requirements of graduate school can be very helpful while pursuing your undergraduate degree."

Graduate school is required for some fields, like education, and the Graduate and Professional School Fair will be a great way to learn about college offerings in those programs, said Adelman.

Students will have the opportunity to win prizes including MP3 players, flash drives and waivers for the SUNY Plattsburgh graduate application fee.

For more information and a complete list of participating institutions call Graduate Admissions at 518-564-GRAD (4723) or 800-723-9515.

SUNY Plattsburgh's Omicron Omega Receives Best Chapter Award



The political science honor society, Pi Sigma Alpha, has announced that SUNY Plattsburgh's Omicron Omega chapter was chosen to receive one of the society's Best Chapter awards for 2008-2009.

According to the letter announcing the awards, they are "intended to recognize local chapters that are particularly active in their departments and universities and exhibit high levels of energy and creativity in furthering the goals of the honor society."

Nationwide, only four schools with enrollments between 6,000 and 15,000 students were selected to receive the award, which includes a cash prize of \$250 and a certificate. The honor will be publicized in the Pi Sigma Alpha Newsletter and the American Political Science Association's quarterly journal, titled PS: Political Science and Politics.

Chapter officers for 2008-2009 school year were senior Sara Drollete, president; junior Benjamin Pomerance, vice president; and senior Tom Cerny, secretary.

'Grandmother of aerobics' to speak at SUNY Plattsburgh Oct. 5



Before Jane Fonda became known for aerobics, there was Sheila Cluff.

In the 1950s, Cluff took figure skating routines, set them to piano music and motivated her high school physical education students through “cardiovascular dance.” Now she is often called the “grandmother of aerobics.”

At 73, a mother of four and grandmother of seven, Cluff has never slowed down. This motivational speaker, owner/founder of The Oaks at Ojai Spa, author of four books, producer of four fitness videos and the leader of more than 40 fitness and beauty cruises, will be coming to SUNY Plattsburgh to share her experiences in a presentation, titled “Passion, Persistence, Professionalism and Power = Success.”

The talk will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Alumni Room of the Angell College Center on Monday, Oct. 5.

“While her presentation is open to everyone, students in fitness, nutrition, hotel management, nursing and business majors are especially encouraged to attend,” said Ken Baldwin, assistant professor, coordinator for the fitness and wellness program and event organizer. “They will find her story useful as they learn about her experiences setting up a spa business, founding her own company, figure skating at competitions in Lake Placid and more.”

Recognized as a pioneer of the American spa industry with a “Trailblazer” tribute from Spa magazine in 2002, she is also the recipient of International Spa Association’s Visionary Award and the Eve Award from the Mannequins Auxiliary of Assistance League of Southern California for her philanthropy and commitment to community outreach. She is also a member of the College of Sports Medicine, the Hotels Advisory Travel Board and the Ojai Film Festival Board, is a member of the International Spa Association and a founding member of the women’s international business organization, Committee of 200.

Library Allows Individuals to Place Holds on Checked-out Items



Now you can go online to view, renew and place holds on checked-out library items. Follow three steps to access your My Library account:

Go to the [Feinberg Library](#) page and click on Search Feinberg under the Find Books and More heading.

1. When the search page is displayed, select My Account in the tool bar below the banner on the left side of the page.
2. Log on using your NetID and password. You will now see a record of your borrowing

activities, along with important messages from Feinberg Library. Remember to Log off when you are done.

Alternatively, you can gain access through MyPlattsburgh. Simply log on to MyPlattsburgh, click on the library tab, then click on My Account.

Please Note:

- Your personal information is not displayed to protect your privacy. If you have a change of address, please let the Library staff know at the second-floor Service Desk.
- [Interlibrary Loan](#) requests are not listed in your My Library account; this information can be viewed in ILLiad.
- If you have items out, you can renew twice before they need to be returned unless a Hold has been placed on an item.
- If you need a checked-out item before the due date listed, you may request a Recall on it at the second-floor Service Desk.
- You may place a Hold on a checked-out item online using the Feinberg catalog. A link appears in the online record if the item is checked out. Click it to submit your interest in receiving the item when it is returned.

If you have any questions, contact Feinberg's second-floor service desk at 518-564-5181.

UUP Partners with NYSUT to Make Strides Against Breast Cancer

SUNY Plattsburgh's UUP chapter is donating two gift baskets to the effort as it teams up with NYSUT to raise money for the fight against breast cancer.

The baskets, which have apple orchard and Elvis Presley themes, will go to the North Country's "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" campaign to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Other area chapters of UUP and NYSUT will also be donating baskets.

Gina Doty, who joined forces with Michelle Toth to make and donate a quilt to last year's raffle, is encouraging others to help out by buying a ticket or donating an item to be added to the baskets. The tickets are \$5 each or six for \$20.

Last year this campaign raised \$25,000 for breast cancer research and medical care. Of that amount, SUNY Plattsburgh's chapter raised \$600. This year, the SUNY Plattsburgh chapter hopes to raise \$750.

For information, contact Doty at 518-564-5011 or dotygl@plattsburgh.edu.

13,250

The Number of Lives Saved from Wearing Seat Belts in 2008.

A safety fact from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration as reported by the National Safety Council News Alert, July 24, 2009.

Did You Know? The Greening of Plattsburgh



As of Spring 2008, our students and College Auxiliary Services implemented a "no tray" practice in the dining halls. This measure has greatly reduced the volume of food waste in sewage water going to the Plattsburgh Waste Treatment Plant.

Faculty/Staff Showcase

Dr. Gary Brannigan recently had his book, "Reading Disabilities: Beating the Odds," published by Reading 2008 & Beyond. This book is aimed at helping the parents of children with reading disabilities.

Jack Downs, adjunct lecturer in the Center for Communication and Journalism and systems and design editor at the Press-Republican, won the third-place Associate Press award for newspaper

blogging for his regular blog, [GreenThink](#), which appears on the Press-Republican Web site. In his blog, Downs looks at environmental and ecological issues that affect the world we live in locally, nationally and globally.

Alexis Levitin has recently had several of his translations published, including **Fernando Iturburu's** "Tapestry of the Sun: An Anthology of Ecuadorian Poetry."

Diana Sarabia-Acosta had her book, "Suenos y desencantose de novelas y peliculas cubanas sel 'periodo especial,'" published by Valladolid: Universitas Sastellae.

Professors from the Auditory Research Laboratories, **Dr. Bob Davis**, **Dr. Wei Qiu**, and **Dr. Roger Hamernik**, are the authors of an article, "Role of Kurtosis Statistic in Evaluating Complex Noise Exposures for the Protection of Hearing," that will be published in the October issue of the Journal of the American Auditory Society, Ear and Hearing.

Effective Sept. 1, **Dr. Richard Davies**, **Dr. Nancy Elwess** and **Dr. Beth Dixon** have been promoted to full professor. **Holly Heller-Ross '84** has been promoted to librarian. In addition, **Dr. Qiuyun Lin**, **Dr. Rohit Rampal**, **Dr. Jean Anne Hunt**, **Dr. Patricia Egan** and **Susan Lezon** have been promoted to associate professor.

Notebook

"Hair." Friday-Saturday, Sept. 4-5, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 6, 2:30 p.m. E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium, Hawkins Hall. Live theatrical production of the rock musical. For information contact hair.psu@gmail.com. Students: \$2. General admission: \$5. Sponsored by the Student Association.

"Platanos and Collard Greens." Saturday, Sept. 5, 5 p.m. Hartman Theatre, Myers Fine Arts Building. Off-Broadway actors from New York City come to Plattsburgh to perform in the hit play about Freeman, an African-American man, and Angelita, a Latino woman, who are both forced to confront and overcome cultural and racial prejudices while defending their bond from family and friends. Sponsored by El Pueblo. \$5.

Campus-wide Heart Walk Kick Off. Wednesday, Sept. 9, noon, starting in the Alumni Conference Room. For faculty/staff and students. The event will feature motivational speakers and a one-mile walk around campus. 564-5064

Poetry Reading by Miriam N. Kotzin. Wednesday, Sept. 9, 8 p.m. Commons, Champlain Valley Hall. Kotzin, editor of Per Contra, will read from her recent books "Reclaiming the Dead" and "Weights & Measures." Free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. Sponsored by the Department of English's Visiting Poets and Writers Series, the Office of the Dean of Arts and Science, and Campus Life. Coordinated by Alexis Levitin.

Sept. 11 Ceremony. Friday, Sept. 11, noon. Hawkins Pond. More information to come.

"Death as an Act of Creation: The Discovery of the Chotuna Skeletons and Unlocking the

Meaning of Human Sacrifice in Ancient Peru." Friday, Sept. 11, 1 p.m. Krinovitz Recital Hall. A lecture by Professor Haagen Klaus '00 of Utah Valley University. A reception will follow at the Honors Center, Room 121, Hawkins Hall. Co-sponsored by the Honors Program and the Department of Anthropology.

"Belle of Amherst." Friday, Sept. 11, 7:30 p.m. Hartman Theatre, Myers Fine Arts Building. William Luce's one-woman play based on the life and work of 19th-century American poet, Emily Dickinson, who, through her poems, diaries and letters, shares stories about the people and events that shaped her secluded life. Directed by theater alumnus Tyler Nye, with Kathleen Recchia as Emily Dickinson. \$5 general admission. \$2 SUNY Plattsburgh students. Tickets available at the Angell College Center desk and at the door.

"Nueve Reinas (Nine Queens)." Wednesday, Sept. 16, 7 p.m. Room 200, Yokum Lecture Hall. Director Fabian Bielinsky's film about two con artists who try to swindle a stamp collector by selling him a sheet of counterfeit rare stamps -- the "nine queens." Part of the Contemporary Argentine Film Series. Spanish with English subtitles. Free and open to the public.

Open Campus and Community Awareness Event to celebrate National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month. Thursday, Sept. 17, noon, Amitie Plaza. This event aims to inspire people in need of treatment or who have friends and family members in need treatment to seek help on issues related to substance abuse and recovery. It will feature a variety of speakers, including campus faculty and staff as well as local community members in recovery. For information, call Jessica Mathews at 518-564-3366. Sponsored by the Eastern Adirondack Health Care Network, the SUNY Plattsburgh Center for Student Health and Psychological Services and Behavioral Health Services North. In case of rain, the program will be held in the Cardinal Lounge, Angell College Center.

Plattsburgh Best Dance Crew. Wednesday, Sept. 23, 7 p.m. E. Glenn Glitz Auditorium, Hawkins Hall.

6th Annual Peace and Social Justice Conference: "Imagine: Instruments of Peace: Race, Gender and Demilitarization." Thursday, Sept. 24, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Alumni Conference Room, Angell College Center. Sponsored by Education, Health and Human Services and the Department of Gender and Women's Studies. Dr. Leo R. Sandy, professor of counselor education and school psychology at Plymouth State University in New Hampshire, will give the keynote address.

Focus Online

November 2009

SUNY Plattsburgh Communication Students Win 20 Regional Awards

This year, SUNY Plattsburgh students cleaned up at the Region 1 National Broadcasting Society Conference. Students from the college won 20 out of the 34 awards offered for their video and audio work.

The students competed against others from chapters in 11 states: Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Vermont and Rhode Island. Schools entering the competition included Emerson College, Rider University, SUNY Oswego and more.

“Our facilities are wonderful, and the students are extremely talented,” said Assistant Professor of Communication Christine Johnson, who attended the conference with the students. “They really have very creative minds.”

Johnson said that faculty has worked hard to push students to take a risk and submit their work.

“I think that’s why we won so many awards because people took a chance and that’s what we’ve been pushing for,” she said.

“Obviously, I am very proud of all the students,” said Department Chair Peter Ensel ’80. “These awards prove to our students they are as talented as those studying at any other communication program in the country, which is a message our faculty is constantly espousing.”

Awards won included the following:

- First Place Video News, Feature, or Sports Package Segments: Zachary Langmead for his Sports Rap Live Package.
- First Place Video News, Feature or Sports Package Show: Langmead for his Sports Rap Live Package.
- First Place Audio News, Feature, or Sports Segment: (Tie) Sean McCluskey WQKE Sports Update.
- First Place Audio News, Feature, or Sports Segment : (Tie) McCluskey WQKE Sports Update 2.
- First Place Audio News, Documentary, or Public Affairs/Interview Program: McCluskey for “Cellphone Use While Driving.”
- First Place Audio Drama Program: Sean Peratikos for “Rt. 13.”
- First Place Video Script Drama Program: Corey Merrick for “The Red Brick Road.”
- Honorable Mention Video Spec Script: Merrick for “A Holly Jolly House.”
- First Place Video Promo, PSA, or Commercial: Merrick, Lindsey Pearce and Peratikos for “NBS Can Drive.”
- First Place Audio Promo, PSA, or Commercial: Melissa Repola for “NBS Can Drive.”
- First Place Video Sports Program: McCluskey for “Cardinal Hockey Pregame Show.”
- First Place Video Sports Play-by-Play Program Segment: McCluskey, “Cardinal Hockey Play by Play.”



- First Place Audio Comedy Program: Merrick for “Hollywood 411.”
- Honorable Mention Audio Comedy Program: Joe Rifice, “Detective Agency.”
- First Place Video Program Opener: Josh Tuper, “Cardinal Sports Live.”
- First Place Audio Station Imaging: Repola, WARP Imager.
- Honorable Mention Audio Station Imaging: Repola, WARP.
- Honorable Mention Audio Station Imaging: McCluskey, WARP Imager.
- First Place Video Open Category: (Tie) Mark Clement and Ellen Cangialosi for “Infectious Disease Nightly News.”
- First Place Video Open Category: (Tie) McCluskey, Repola and Pearce for “International Student Support Services YouTube video (Japanese).”

The first place winners will have their work entered in the national competition, taking place in Texas next March.



Lavoie and Grom met with new SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher and received their awards from SUNY Plattsburgh’s own College Council President Arnie Amell '53.

SUNY Plattsburgh Students Sweep Excellence Awards

SUNY Plattsburgh students made a strong showing at the SUNY Association of Council Members and College Trustees awards presentation this fall, winning two regional excellence awards.

Senior Betty Lavoie won the ACT for Excellence in Scholarship Award for her work in the field of biology.

Senior Brandon Grom and other SUNY Plattsburgh students accepted the Student Initiative Award on behalf of the students who organized a rally against hate and discrimination at SUNY Plattsburgh last spring.



SUNY Plattsburgh Students Take Top Honors (Again) at National Biology Conferences

SUNY Plattsburgh biology students continue to rack up honors for their work. For the fifth year in a row, they’ve won top awards at the National Association of Biology Teachers and the Sigma Xi national conferences.

In the student poster competition at the National Association of Biology Teachers Conference in Denver, Colo., Natasha Mead, a senior biology major, took the top award for "Y Chromosome Mapping of Contemporary DNA Using DYS199 and DYS19 Markers" – a poster presenting her work under Dr. Nancy Elwess, professor of biological sciences, and Sandra Latourelle, adjunct lecturer.



"Natasha did a fantastic job representing SUNY Plattsburgh at the national level," said Elwess. "The award was well deserved; her hard work really paid off, and I am proud of her."



At the National Sigma Xi Conference in The Woodlands, Texas, Betty Lavoie, a senior biology major minoring in archeology and chemistry, won the top award in her category for "A New Species of Wild Eggplant, with Implications for the Evolution of a Rare Breeding System" – a poster about research she conducted under Dr. Chris Martine, assistant professor of biological sciences.

This was not the first time that Lavoie won a major award from a national conference. At last year's National Association of Biology Teachers Conference, Lavoie received top honors for her poster presentation about DNA research she conducted under Elwess.

"Betty's work in my lab has been outstanding, so I was not surprised that she won her award," said Martine. "How many undergraduates participate in research that includes fieldwork in the Australian Outback and a hand in discovering a new species? Not many."

The reason that Elwess and Martine bring their students to these conferences is not simply to win awards, however.

"The fact that students present at professional meetings is, in and of itself, an important accomplishment," said Martine. "We don't send them so that they can win awards. We send them so they can experience what it is like to share their research findings with the greater scientific community. And if one or two students also receive outstanding recognition, that's a bonus."

Student Work at Research Institute Results in Children's Book

Adventures of Captain Fishhook Waterflea:



the Invasion of Lake Champlain

By Alexandra Mihalek, Carianne Pershyn, Casey Binggeli
and Dr. Timothy B. Mithae (editor)

Two SUNY Plattsburgh graduates and one Harvard student are trying to teach children about invasive species through a new children's book.

The book, "Adventures of Captain Fishhook Waterflea: The Invasion of Lake Champlain," was written and illustrated by Alexandra Mihalek, Carianne Pershyn '07 and Casey Binggeli '09 when they worked at the Lake Champlain Research Institute.

"There were battles in the Great Lakes and Lake Champlain in the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812," wrote the authors in the preface – a note to parents. "The brave soldiers on both fronts, though, were humans. They used boats and cannons, bayonets and forts to protect their land and fight for the country. But now, there is a new battle being fought under the surface of these lakes. Not with cannons or 'soldiers,' but between the different parts of the lake itself."

The authors illustrate this battle through the fictional story of Casey

Copepod and his friends, Carrie Ceratium and Alex Asterionella, and their battle against the Pirates Waterflea. To help children understand vocabulary like “copepod,” “ceratium,” “asterionella” and “water flea,” the book includes fact boxes, explaining the terminology.

According to Tim Mihuc, the book’s editor and the director of the Lake Champlain Research Institute, the books are being sold pretty much at cost because the goal is to educate children, not to raise money.

Copies are now available through Lulu.com. Mihuc expects that they will soon be available through Amazon.com as well.

SUNY Board Adopts 2010-2011 Budget Request



Upon the recommendation of Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher, the State University of New York Board of Trustees approved the SUNY 2010-2011 State Budget Request Nov. 17.

Approval by the Board comes as applications and enrollments surge to record levels, as SUNY approves a policy that improves student mobility, and the university attracts \$95M in stimulus research funding. These announcements come on the heels of Zimpher engaging SUNY and the public in a statewide strategic planning effort that is the largest public conversation about public higher education in the country.

The 2010-2011 request seeks:

- Additional management and operation flexibility for SUNY campuses in order to generate additional savings and new revenue.
- Some additional funding to support state-mandated costs and inflation.
- Recognition of the state’s commitment to return to SUNY a portion of the 2009 tuition increase.
- To follow the rational tuition plan adopted by the board in 2008.
- And the continuation of SUNY’s multi-year capital construction budget.

“I commend Chancellor Zimpher and all SUNY campus presidents, faculty and staff for their success while coping with this severe fiscal crisis,” said Board Chairman Carl T. Hayden. “The request we approved today provides SUNY with the state resources needed to move forward, and more importantly, provides us with tools to better utilize our existing scarce resources.”

“This year’s budget request protects our students while providing regulatory relief for our campuses,” said Zimpher. “The flexibility legislation we’ve submitted would generate additional revenue, giving us stability and opportunity for the future. SUNY will continue to work with the governor and the Legislature to get through this fiscal crisis as we develop our long-term strategic plan.”

In a departure from past practice and in response to the on-going fiscal crisis, Zimpher formed a Budget Task Force to develop the 2010-2011 budget request and to address the \$90 million 2009-2010 mid-year budget reduction. The Board of Trustees today also approved the adjustment to the SUNY 2009-2010 financial plan.

The Budget Task Force was comprised of campus presidents from all SUNY sectors, campus provosts, business officers, vice president for research and SUNY system administration staff.

Chancellor Zimpher praised the Budget Task Force's work, saying "the Task Force really pushed the re-set button with this process, developing solutions that will enable SUNY to deal with our short-term challenges while laying the groundwork for long-term structural reforms."

2010-2011 Budget Request Highlights

State Support

For baccalaureate and doctoral granting campuses, the request addresses SUNY's obligation to meet base-level needs, including negotiated collective bargaining agreements and inflation.

For the 30 community colleges, the request calls for full funding of enrollment as well as a modest \$50 per student increase to enable those campuses to cope with inflationary pressures.

For SUNY hospitals, the request calls for an increase in the state subsidy to fund collectively bargained salaries and employee benefits and the extraordinary costs increases in the employer share of the NY Common Retirement fund.

The 2010-2011 budget request also follows the rational tuition policy adopted by the board in 2008. The [rational tuition policy](#) calls for SUNY to increase all tuition levels by an amount equal to the Higher Education Price Index, which is two percent for the 2009-2010 fiscal year for public colleges and universities.

Under the plan, a resident undergraduate would pay \$5,070 per year in tuition in the fall of 2010, with SUNY campuses retaining 100 percent of the revenue generated by the increase.

At that level, tuition would exceed the \$5,000 limit for the state's Tuition Assistance Program. To protect the financially neediest students, SUNY will self-fund the overage at a cost of \$5 million.

When the \$100 annual increase is taken into account, SUNY 2010 in-state undergraduate tuition and fees would still be below the 2009 national average, based on a recent report from the College Board.

Financial and Administrative Flexibility

SUNY seeks additional financial and administrative statutory flexibility to form a stronger strategic partnership for the economic resurgence of the state of New York. A differential tuition policy and management and operational reforms, outlined below, will enable SUNY to generate significant additional revenue apart from state support and create new efficiencies resulting in savings to be directed to the research, teaching and public service missions of the campuses.

The SUNY Board of Trustees will report annually on the progress and effectiveness of these reforms and will provide notification of impending tuition rates to the governor and state Legislature.

A differential tuition policy for all SUNY four-year campuses will do the following:

- Allow the SUNY Board of Trustees to implement differential tuition rates at the doctoral-granting institutions upon the recommendation of the presidents.
- Permit different tuition rates to be authorized for annual or multi-year tuition by program and, within each program, by class year, and differing rates of tuition based upon full-time, part-time, in-state and out-of-state status, need or income.
- And provide a pathway for differential tuition at SUNY comprehensive and technology colleges.

Management/operational reform for all SUNY campuses will:

- Eliminate pre-audit of expenses by the state comptroller and attorney general.
- Allow for leasing or other arrangements of SUNY campus property without state comptroller or attorney general approvals, with the exception of the sale of such property.
- Provide campuses with access market capital through DASNY.
- And authorizes campuses to engage in public – private partnerships.

The PowerPoint presentation to the Board of Trustees detailing the SUNY 2010-2011 budget request is available [here](#).

Chapel Hill Foundation Provides Fellowship to Study Challenges of Aging Society

The Chapel Hill Foundation has funded a fellowship for a student pursuing a project related to the challenges of an aging society.

The fellowship will provide a summer stipend and tuition support for up to two semesters to a junior or senior full-time student at SUNY Plattsburgh. Students may apply in either their sophomore or junior year. Any student with any major and an interest in investigating the relation of his or her major to the challenges of an aging society is encouraged to apply.

To apply for the fellowship, contact the office of the dean of education, health, and human services at 518-564-3066 and request an application. Applications should include a detailed proposal with the following:

- A working title of the project.
- A brief explanation of why you are interested in this project.
- The background experience and information you bring to the project.
- The method you propose to use in doing the project (e.g., library research, interviews, surveys, etc.), including any community resources you anticipate needing. Specify whether human subjects will be involved in the project.
- A proposed timeline for completion of the project. For projects involving human subjects, indicate how Institutional Review Board approval will be sought. (Typical projects will include a summer and up to two semesters to complete.)
- The product(s) you anticipate to generate.
- A brief description of how you will disseminate the product(s) from the project.
- A description of how the project and product(s) will be evaluated. What would constitute a successful project?
- A detailed budget for the project, not to exceed \$9,000. (Include detailed descriptions of the reasons for the cost items. For example, if you include an amount for a summer stipend, indicate how you arrived at that amount.)
- A letter of support from a faculty member who agrees to serve as mentor for the project.

Applications should be submitted electronically to the dean of education, health, and human services, Sibley 400, on or before Feb. 5, 2010. The fellowship recipient will be chosen from the applicants based on the evaluation of a selection committee consisting of SUNY Plattsburgh faculty and administration together with representatives from the community and the health care field. The fellowship award will be announced by April 5, 2010.

Grants Provide Resources to Enhance Green Efforts



When it comes to the environment, SUNY Plattsburgh students are serious about making a difference, according to Eileen Allen '77, co-chair of the Campus Committee for Environmental Responsibility. And that seriousness has led to the availability of more than \$25,000 in grant funds for campus community members who want to make a difference.

In 2007, students instituted the first optional Green Fee in the SUNY system. This allowed students to contribute \$3 per semester to help the campus go green. As a result, the campus has funding to sponsor projects that increase the college's environmental sustainability.

With continued efforts from the students, faculty and President John Ettling, the Campus Committee for Environmental Responsibility was created to manage the funds gathered from the Green Fee.

"In addition to needing a committee to allocate green-fee funds, we also wanted a committee with the charge of increasing environmental awareness on campus and acting as a clearinghouse for ideas," said Sarah Wharton, the first student co-chair of the CCER "If someone from our campus had an idea dealing with the environment, the committee would point them in the right direction and help them get their goal achieved.

"We also wanted this group to be as diverse as possible, representing the entire campus community, with members of the faculty, staff and student body. We thought that CCER would be instrumental in helping the campus succeed in its journey to environmental sustainability," continued Wharton.

The CCER awards Green Grants up to \$8,000 to student and faculty projects that increase the college's environmental sustainability and promote environmental awareness on campus.

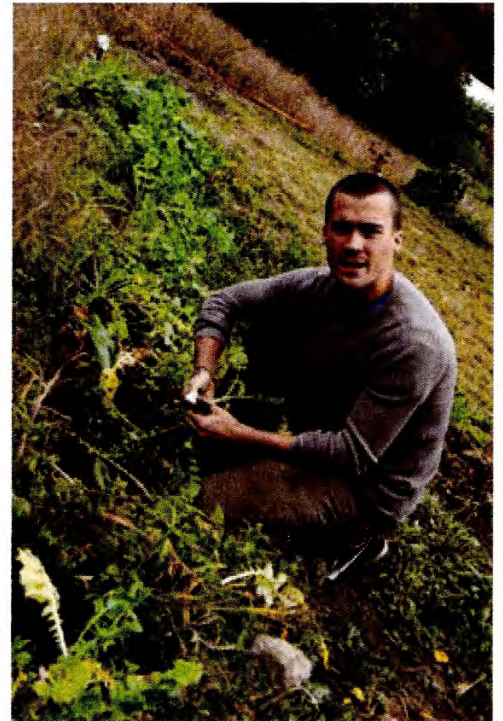
In order to receive a Green Grant, students and faculty must submit a Green Grant application for review by the committee.

CCER Green Grants have funded a number of projects around campus, including the creation of a community garden and the River Woods project. This ongoing project will map the existing trails in the Rugar Woods, as well as mark more trails for student use in athletics, study and more.

Most notably, the CCER awarded \$8,000 to a bio-diesel conversion project. To date, dining hall waste has been converted to 200 gallons of clean burning bio-diesel fuel for use around campus.

According to Professor Timothy Mihuc, faculty co-chair of the CCER, the committee has the resources to fund and implement projects that can change the way things are done on campus in a meaningful way. He asks applicants to "think big."

Although applications are accepted all year, the CCER hopes to receive the bulk of the applications as soon as



possible so that the projects can be funded by the end of the semester.

For more information contact Allen at alleneb@plattsburgh.edu or Mihuc at mihuctb@plattsburgh.edu.

Liz McAleer '09
Public Relations Intern

Abstracts Now Being Accepted for Technology Conference

Abstract submissions are now being accepted for the Conference on Instructional Technologies 2010, "Classrooms, Continents and Clouds: Who Moved My Chalk?"



The CIT, now in its 19th year, will take place at SUNY Plattsburgh May 25-28, 2010.

A \$100 Faculty Access to Computing Technology Scholarship toward the cost of registration will be awarded to those individuals whose abstract is accepted for presentation at CIT. There will also be an opportunity to submit a full paper to be considered for publication in the Journal of Educational Technology Systems.

To submit an abstract, visit the CIT Web site at www.cit.suny.edu, and select the "Submit Your Abstract" link from the right-hand side of the page. Abstracts will be accepted until Jan. 18, 2010.

UP Officer Bikes to Raise Awareness



For SUNY Plattsburgh University Police Officer Robert Light, Washington, D.C., is just a bicycle ride away. He will journey there from northern New Jersey as part of the Police Unity Tour to honor fallen law enforcement officers.

"The purpose of the Police Unity Tour is two-fold. The first and foremost is raising awareness of officers who have died in the line of duty," said Light. "The second is to raise funds for the National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund."

Leaving on May 9, Light and more than 1,000 other riders will complete the 300-plus-mile trip over four days during National Police Week. The tour will end with a candlelight vigil for those officers who have died.

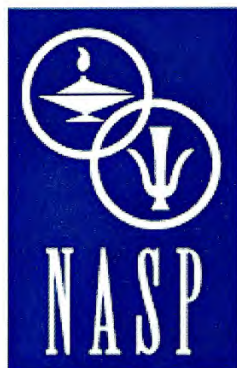
"I have participated in eight or nine Rides for Missing Children from Albany to Utica, and I was looking for a new way to get involved when I heard about the Police Unity Tour," said Light.

In order to participate, Light must raise \$1,700, but he hopes he will be able to raise \$2,000 through donations from local police stations, private organizations, and individuals.

For more information, contact Light at lightrj@plattsburgh.edu or to make an online donation visit www.firstgiving.com/robertlight.

Liz McAleer '09

Graduate Program in School Psychology Receives Accreditation



A new accreditation will open doors for SUNY Plattsburgh graduate students working toward degrees in school psychology, giving those degrees recognition across the country.

After reviewing the curriculum and data collected on student performance, the National Association of School Psychology has awarded full accreditation to the college's Master of Arts/Certificate of Advanced Study program in school psychology.

"This accreditation signifies that Plattsburgh's school psychology graduate program meets or exceeds the standards of training established by NASP and qualifies students to work virtually anywhere in the country," said Dr. Dale Phillips, the associate professor of psychology who headed the accreditation efforts.

Candidates who graduate from a program with NASP-approved status are automatically eligible for the National Certificate in School Psychology, pending the attainment of a passing score on the Praxis II Examination in school psychology and documentation of an internship consistent with NASP standards.

"The NASP creates a good set of professional standards for students," said Dr. Patricia Egan, associate professor of psychology. "We owe it to our students to be accredited."

"This achievement is the result of years of effort by the faculty of the school psychology program with the support of the entire psychology department and chairs. Deans Kathleen Lavoie and David Hill have been critical to this success," added Phillips.

The three-year program includes two years of hands-on work in schools, with the final year spent interning full time at a school.

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SUNY Plattsburgh Employees Make a Difference Through SEFA

In the past, when faculty and staff at SUNY Plattsburgh have given back to their community through the State Employees Federated Appeal, they have done so a big way -- serving as the largest contributor to the program in the North Country.

SUNY Plattsburgh's donations have comprised 26 percent of the total contributions from Clinton, Essex, Franklin and Hamilton counties, and now faculty and staff have another chance to give to the fund, which allows them to donate to the charitable organizations of their choice.



"Giving through SEFA is just one of the many ways our employees make a difference in their community," said President John Ettling. "We are proud of all their efforts."

The 2009 campaign is led by Peter Luguri '73 G'80 assistant vice president for student affairs/ director of first year programs, along with Secretary Cherice Granger '06, UUP Representative Carol Bleaux '96 and CSEA Representative Ethel Facteau.

Last year the college's campaign raised approximately \$50,822.

The theme of this year's campaign is "Together We Can. Make a Pledge. Make a Difference." Its goal is to raise \$50,500 with 320 individuals participating. The campaign will run through Dec. 4.

"The unique aspect of SEFA is that employees are able to contribute through payroll deductions over the course of a year," says Luguri. "It's much different than having to write out a check."

Although most of the money stays fairly local, SEFA allows state employees to pick from a number of different non-profit agencies locally, nationally and internationally as well.

For more information about the campaign, visit the Web site at <http://www.sefa.ny.us> or contact Luguri directly at 518-564-2280, to learn more about Plattsburgh's efforts specifically.

Kelly Combs
Public Relations Intern

Van Safety Program Changes Hands

As of Oct. 26, Gina Doty is no longer running the Van Safety Training Program on campus because she has taken on a research project for Institutional Advancement in addition to her records management responsibilities.

According to Doty, assistant Dean of Students Larry Allen will take on the coordination and training duties involved with the program, which has trained more than 750 drivers since its inception in September 2003. Under Allen, the program will continue to be taught in the same format, with three hours of classroom instruction followed by a hands-on van driver's training.

Allen can be reached at 518-564-3282.

College Focus Brings Harlem and Adirondack Students Together

In what is becoming an annual tradition that brings urban and rural students together to learn about college and vastly different lives, a dozen students and four educators from two Harlem schools journeyed to the North Country this November.

These men and women are part of College for Every Student (CFES), a national nonprofit based in Cornwall, Vt., that helps underserved students get to college and be successful there.

Before heading to the CFES National Conference at the Sagamore Resort in Bolton Landing, N.Y., students from A. Philip Randolph Campus High School and Wadleigh Secondary School for the Performing & Visual Arts flew to Burlington, Vt. There, they visited St. Michael's College and the University of Vermont before making the trip across Lake Champlain to SUNY Plattsburgh for dinner.

The next day, 15 students from Willsboro Central School joined their CFES peers from Harlem for a tour and student panel at SUNY Plattsburgh before heading to Paul Smith's College. The day ended with an evening at Willsboro Central School for a student play and dinner.

"Last year's home and away exchange with Harlem was life changing for many of our students. While experiencing a different culture, they saw the common bonds that brought them together," said Willsboro Superintendent Steve Broadwell.

Since 1991, CFES has worked with more than 100,000 underserved students, and currently serves 133 schools in 20 states and the District of Columbia.

This fall, 97 percent of CFES Scholars in the high school class of 2009 began college after graduation. For more information, please visit www.collegefes.org or contact Noah Feder at feder@collegefes.org or 802-462-3170.

Faculty/Staff Showcase



A blog administered by **Dr. Anna Battigelli**, professor of English, and Eleanor Shevlin, from West Chester University of Pennsylvania, has been nominated for “Best New Blog” in the History News Network’s Cliopatria Awards. The blog, titled Early Modern Online Bibliography, may be viewed at www.earlymodernonlinebib.wordpress.com.



Dr. Chris Martine, assistant professor of biological sciences, was one of 12 individuals invited to the first Botanical Society of America Education Summit. The scope of the two-day summit, convened at the BSA headquarters on the grounds of the Missouri Botanical Garden, was to further define the role of the 3200-member society in bringing botanical and general science information to the public.



Dr. Jonathan R. Slater, associate professor of communication, held two master classes in public relations ethics this fall. First, at the Public Relations Society of America Northeast Regional Conference in Rochester, N.Y., this October, he led students from local student chapters in a PR case study. He was joined by Dr. Deborah Silverman of Buffalo State College; Ginni Jurkowski of SUNY Geneseo; and Daisy Guthin, chief operating officer of WORLDCOM Public Relations Group in Rochester. Then, in November, Slater and Silverman led 100 students from student chapters in an investor relations case study at the organization’s national conference in San Diego, Calif. The conference was held simultaneously with the PRSA international conference, where Slater and Professor Carolyn White Bartoo of the University of Delaware joined forces to present “Tribulations and triumphs of teaching real-world, client-based public relations: An assessment of the campaigns course pedagogy.” This was a scholar-to-scholar session and ran as part of PRSA’s Educators Academy annual research showcase. In late October, Slater also took part in a public relations and advertising pedagogy summit in Baltimore, Md., at the invitation of Laureate Education.



Dr. Douglas Selwyn, an associate professor in the teacher education unit, has just had a book published by Peter Lang. “Following the Threads: Bringing Inquiry Research into the Classroom” was released this month.

Keith Tait '78, director of environmental health and safety, recently presented “Sustainability at Plattsburgh” at the annual conference for SEHSA Environmental Health and Safety Association of N.Y. He was the only one presenting on this topic and says he received positive feedback for the presentation and for the college’s environmental efforts.